PTO/SB/21 (09-04) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE rk Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a c ollection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number **Application Number** 10/825639 TRANSMITTAL Filing Date 4/15/2004 **FORM** First Named Inventor Koskey Art Unit 3742 **Examiner Name** Fastovsky (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Attorney Docket Number KHI-0401 Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (Check all that apply) After Allowance Communication to TC Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) Appeal Communication to Board Fee Attached Licensing-related Papers of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC Amendment/Reply Petition (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition to Convert to a After Final Proprietary Information Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address Affidavits/declaration(s) Status Letter Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify Terminal Disclaimer Extension of Time Request below): Post Card Request for Refund Express Abandonment Request CD, Number of CD(s) ____ Information Disclosure Statement Landscape Table on CD Certified Copy of Priority NOTICE of Appeal Fre Appeal Brief Request Remarks Document(s) Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Name Signature Printed name Dale B. Halling Date Reg. No. 38170

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Applicant requests review of the final rejection in the above-identified application. No amendments are being filed			
with this request.			
This request is being filed with a notice of appeal.			
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The review is requested for the reason(s) stated on the attached sheet(s). Note: No more than five (5) pages may be provided.			
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NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below*.			
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forms are submitted.



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS:

Koskey, James Jr.

EXAMINER: Fastovsky,

Leonid

SERIAL NO.:

10/825,639

GROUP: 3742

FILED:

April 15, 2004

CASE NO.: KHI-0401

ENTITLED: Heated Pet Mat

Law Offices of Dale B. Halling 655 Southpointe, Suite 311 Colorado Springs, CO 80903 December 9, 2005

PRE-APPEAL BRIEF REQUEST FOR REVIEW

Mail Stop AF Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Remarks

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-12 are at issue. Claims 7 & 8 stand rejected based on 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Park (2004/0195227). Claims 1-6 & 9 stand rejected based on 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Park (2004/0195227). Claims 10-12 stand rejected based on 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Park in view of Graffind (4,788,417) and further in view of McCann (2,612,585).

Clear Issues for Review

I. The Prior Art does not show or suggest every element recited in claims.

Claim 7 requires that the housing have the shape of a truncated semicircle. This is shown in FIG.s 2 & 4 of the specification. As explained in the Background section of the present application, "there is significant waste when cutting a circle or pair of semicircles from a sheet of plastic. . . . This has resulted in pricing round or semicircle heated pet mats out of the market." The point of the present application is a heated pet mat for igloo shaped dog houses. (See Background). The shape shown in Park (2004/0195227), FIG.s 2-4, is essentially a rectangle not a truncated semicircle. The cushion 40 in Park will not fit snuggly inside an igloo shaped dog house. As a result, it fails to meet one of the main goals of the present invention. Claim 7 is allowable over the prior art.

Claim 8 requires the housing be made of a fire resistant material. The Examiner states that Park uses the same material as the present application. In the present application, PVC and ABS (page 5, lines 6 & 7) are cited as possible materials for the housing. Park never mentions that his material should be fire resistant and cites as types of material, upholstery fabrics, cloth fabric, vinyl fabrics and soft leather like materials (Paragraph 39). While Park's laundry list overlaps with PVC, not all these materials are fire retardant and therefore it cannot be said that Park teaches a fire retardant material. Claim 8 is allowable.

Claim 1 requires a fire retardant material and a truncated circle folded in half. The truncated circle is shown in FIG.s 2 & 4 of the specification. As explained in the Background section of the present application, "there is significant waste when cutting a circle or pair of semicircles from a sheet of plastic. . . . This has resulted in pricing round or semicircle heated pet mats out of the market." The point of the present application is a heated pet mat for igloo shaped dog houses. (See Background). The shape shown in Park

(2004/0195227), FIG.s 2-4, is essentially a rectangle not a truncated circle folded in half. Claim 1 is allowable.

The Examiner states that Park uses the same material as the present application. In the present application, PVC and ABS (page 5, lines 6 & 7) are cited as possible materials for the housing. Park never mentions that his material should be fire resistant and cites as types of material, upholstery fabrics, cloth fabric, vinyl fabrics and soft leather like materials (Paragraph 39). While Park's laundry list overlaps with PVC, not all these materials are fire retardant and therefore it cannot be said that Park teaches a fire retardant material. Claim 1 is allowable.

Claim 2 requires that the edges be sealed together along an edge. If this is so obvious, we merely ask that the Examiner cite a reference showing this feature. Until the Examiner finds such a reference, claim 2 is allowable.

Claim 3 requires that the fire retardant material be ABS. There is no suggestion in Park that the material be made of a fire retardant marerial or that it be made of ABS. Clearly, claim 3 is allowable over the prior art.

Claims 4 & 5 are allowable for the same reasons as claim 1.

Claim 6 further defines the truncated circle and is clearly allowable over the prior art.

Claim 9 requires that the fire retardant material be ABS. There is no suggestion in Park that the material be made of a fire retardant or that it be made of ABS. Clearly, claim 9 is allowable over the prior art.

Claims 10 & 11 are allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Claim 12 requires that the housing have the shape of a truncated semicircle. This is shown in FIG.s 2 & 4 of the specification. As explained in the Background section of the present application, "there is significant waste when cutting a circle or pair of semicircles from a sheet of plastic. . . . This has resulted in pricing round or semicircle heated pet mats out of the market." The point of the present application is a heated pet mat for igloo shaped dog houses.

(See Background). The shape shown in Park (2004/0195227), FIG.s 2-4, is essentially a rectangle not a truncated semicircle. The cushion 40 in Park will not fit snuggly inside an igloo shaped dog house. As a result, it fails to meet one of the main goals of the present invention. Claim 12 is allowable over the prior art.

The Examiner states that Park uses the same material as the present application. In the present application, PVC and ABS (page 5, lines 6 & 7) are cited as possible materials for the housing. Park never mentions that his material should be fire resistant and cites as types of material, upholstery fabrics, cloth fabric, vinyl fabrics and soft leather like materials (Paragraph 39). While Park's laundry list overlaps with PVC, not all these materials are fire retardant and therefore it cannot be said that Park teaches a fire retardant material. Claim 12 is allowable.

Prompt reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

(Koskey)

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